Numb. 35.

The British Apollo,

OR,

Curious Amuſements for the INGENIOUS.

To which are added the moſt

Material Occurrences Foreign and Domeſtick.

Perform'd by a Society of GENTLEMEN.

From **Wedneſday** June 9th. to **Friday** June 11th. 1708.

Q. *Pray, how will you reconcile theſe two Verſes in* Numbers 22. *viz.* ver. 20th. *And God came unto* Balaam *at night, and ſaid unto him, if the Men come, and call thee, riſe up, and go with them. And* Ver. 22d. *And God's Anger was kindled; becauſe he went.*

A. Some think, that the Leave, he ſeems to have obtain'd from God, was no more than a Sarcaſtical Permiſſion, and intended to reprehend him for his ſo Eager deſire of going, as to wait for a further anſwer, tho' his Suit had been rejected with a flat Denial. But others well obſerve, that ſuch a Sarcaſm is not altogether ſo conſiſtent with the Context. But we may rationally ſuppoſe, that he went with a Greedy Avaritious Mind; with a Mind intent upon nothing more than the Splendid Promiſes made him by the King of *Moab*. And therefore God, whoſe Prerogative it is to ſearch the Heart, might well be angry that he went; went with ſo ſelfiſh, ſo covetous an Intention. Beſides, tho' God had permitted him to go, under this reſtriction, *but yet the word, which I ſhall ſay unto thee, That ſhalt thou do*, he might yet waver on the Road, whether he ſhou'd not act contrary to the Will of God, rather than looſe the offers that were made him. And as this ſeems ſomewhat confirm'd from the Repetition of the ſame Reſtriction, when the Angel met him in his Journey; ſo it beſt comports with what we meet with in 2 *Pet.* 2. 15. *following the way of* Balaam, *who loved the ways of Unrighteouſneſs.*

Q. *What is the meaning of thoſe Words of our Saviour in* Mat. 8. 22. *follow me, and let the Dead bury the Dead.*

A. As Sinners are ſaid in Scripture to be *Dead* in Treſpaſſes and Sins, agreeable to what the Father ſays of his returning Prodigal, he was Dead, and is Alive again: So the Ancient Philoſophers call'd Them Dead, who deſerted the Diſcipline, They taught them, and gave themſelves up to Senſual Entertainments. Our Saviour therefore in theſe Words addreſt to one, whom he here calls to be one of his Diſciples, does as good as ſay, the Secular (tho' Neceſſary) concern, you mention, may be manag'd by Worldly Men, who are not buſied in more Important Matters. Leave therefore the burial of thy Dead to Them, and defer not thy Admiſſion to that Holy Office, to which I have vouchſaft to call you.

Q. *I am a Young Man, naturally of a ſerious and ſober Diſpoſition, but of late my Mind is carried away very much with vain and idle thoughts, ſo that I am not able to fix my Mind, as I ought, at Church, or at my Private Devotions, tho' I ſtrive with all my power. I deſire your Advice, and the moſt effectual Method to repel the Evil, which I am not able to avoid?*

A. Many Good and Pious Perſons complain of the ſame Misfortune. And indeed, none but the Pious and the Good, make it Matter of Complaint. To the Sincerity of your Own Endeavours you muſt add the fervency, the frequency of your Prayers: For He alone, who made our Spirits, is able to Command them too. Tho' ſuch Unſteadineſs of Thought does very often proceed from Infirmity of Body. And therefore the Phyſician ſhou'd be conſulted, and proper Medicines applied to the Diſeaſe. But Divines lay this down as a Cautionary Rule, not to be over Solicitous about our Evil Thoughts, ſince a too intenſe Solicitude does rather inflame the Malady. But your's ſeem rather to be Rambling, than Wicked Thoughts; namely, ſuch, as rather call Off from your Devotion, than Intermingle with it. If neither your own endeavours, nor the Preſcriptions of the Phyſician, nor your Applications to Heaven, will any thing avail, you muſt bear it, as you wou'd any other Misfortune, with a Chriſtian Patience, and comfort your ſelf with this, that ſo Unavoidable a Calamity will never be Imputed as a Sin.

Q. *Gentlemen, Pray reconcile the ſeeming difference of the Texts,* 1 Chron. 5. 2. *And the Birth-right was* Joſeph's, *and in* 30. Gen. 24. Joſeph *is named as the eleventh Son, and* 49. Gen. 22, Joſeph *is bleſſed in his place as the eleventh Son, without any thing of Primogeniture appropriate to him.*

A. Tho' *Joſeph* was the Eleventh Son, and in that order were bleſſed by his Father *Jacob*, yet by the Tenor of the Bleſſing, he receiv'd the Primogeniture, with reſpect to what his Poſterity was to Poſſeſs in the Land of *Canaan*; as you may read in *Gen.* 49*th. Chap.* 22*d.* and following *Verſes.* But this is more remarkably diſplay'd in the laſt *Verſe* of the preceeding *Chapter*, where *Jacob* ſays to *Joſeph*, moreover, I have given to thee one Portion above thy Brethren, which I took out of the hand of the *Amorite* with my Sword, and with my Bow.

Q. *What is the beſt Modern way of Longitude?*

A. Since there is no Circle from North to South, to determine Longitude, as the Equator determines Latitude, Longitude muſt of conſequence be an Arbitrary thing. Nor is it of importance, where you

your first Meridian, since, tho' Different Geographers use Different Meridians, you may Reconcile them all by Addition or Subtraction.

Q. *Who were the first Inhabitants of* America?

A. The Americans for want of Records can't discover their own Original. But tho' it be not as yet known, yet hereafter it may come to light: As a Statue dug up in *Spain* the last Age, gives a great Confirmation to a remarkable Point in Ecclesiastical History.

Q. *Gentlemen, I beg the favour of troubling you with this following Question: What's the Reason why a Lady I was in company with fell into a Swoon, at the sight of a Spider crawling upon her Sleeve?*

A. Doubtless this kind of Affection does proceed from Antipathy, or occult Enmities of the Sensitive Soul, which, when the Animal Spirits by the meeting of some Object have been once driven into Confusion, for the future abhors the Approach of the same, or its Contact by Effluvia's.

Q. *How does Mercury operate so as to cause a Salivation?*

A. Mercury (according to Authors) performs its Operation, by an intimate mixture of its sharp Saline and Volatile Sulphureous Particles with the Blood, which being actuated by Heat, acquire as it were a *Vehicle* in the Serum or Lympha, which they excite to Motion, render fluxile, and by a kind of Sublimation cause that plentiful discharge thro' the Excretory Glands of the Mouth.

Q. *'Tis my Misfortune, thro' ill advice, to be hook'd into an Engagement with a pretty Lady, who tho' reputed a considerable Fortune, but is really worth but little, as I have since discover'd; now if I marry her, I shall not only so disoblige my Friends that they will certainly disinherit me, and then I shall have nothing but a Reversionary Estate after 2 Lives to depend on (indeed I am entring on an honourable Profession, but that I can't live by a great while yet) but likewise it will tend to the decay of a very honourable Family which I have a great inclination to Support,* &c. *I desire your Advice with Candour and Sincerity, for 'tis of the highest Consequence.*

A. Tho' were you Hook'd into the Engagement, if it was confirm'd with Obligations, in their own Nature binding; your Imprudence in being impos'd upon, will not discharge you of them; but you ought to marry her; this we urge, in case the Friends you mention, are not your Parents: If they be, they have only a Negative Power, and cannot force you to marry another, without first making Satisfaction to the Lady.

Q. *The Publick News acquaint us with an Island sprung up in the Archipelago by a Subterraneous Vulcano. Pray how can such an Effect be solv'd, since how can Fire and Water agree?*

A. It seems somewhat strange, that you shou'd first call the Vulcano a Subterraneous one, and then say, can Fire and Water agree, when Subterraneous signifies under the *Earth.* And pray, what can be at the bottom of the Sea but Earth, whence the violence of sudden Fires may force up such a quantity of solid Matter, as may be sufficient to compose an Island.

Q. *Why doth Straw preserve Ice, and ripen Apples?*

A. Straw is very fitly used to cover Ice houses, because it doth not only keep out the Sun, as well as any other Covering could do, but besides it is not so apt to grow hot, and continue so for a time, as other more Compact and Solid Bodies are. As to its furthering the ripening of Apples, 'tis what may be called in Question. It rather seems to be used likewise for their better Preservation, because that Fruit being laid upon it, is not so liable to be bruised, or to receive any damage from wet as when laid on a naked Floor.

Q. *Gentlemen, We may reasonably suppose that several of Your Slender-witted Querists (whose Impertinencies You so publickly Expose) to be Persons who have subscribed for Your Papers. Pray do not You sometimes loose their Custom by it?*

A. We can assure you Sir, that we cannot Apprehend we have lost one yet, upon that or any other Account, except on Removals and other like Cases of Necessity; nor can we suppose they send their Queries to a Publick Paper on any other Design than to have them publickly expos'd; but this we are positive in, that we have gain'd many Subscribers by the Turns we have given to such: Thus shou'd any of those leave us, the lots wou'd be over-ballanc'd by the Advantage.

Q. *Pray Gentlemen, Is it good to take Snuff, and if it is, tell me in what the goodness consisteth, and you will very much oblige your most humble Subscriber* Silvia?

A. Madam, Snuff is beneficial against many Indispositions of the Head, when aptly prepar'd for such Uses, and not Injurious to almost any, if not immoderately taken: In which Case the most Salutiferous Preparations, may be Noxious.

Q. Apollo *you are a damn'd sly Dog, for when you have Questions that you cannot Answer, you put them off with a Jear upon the Querist: Now with what Face can you answer this?*

A. If the Querist were arriv'd to Years of Discretion, which perhaps he may not attain, shou'd he Live these fifty Years, He would discern, that such Questions are worthy only of such Solutions; this we may answer with a very Modest Face: But had we occasion to insert such rediculous Positions as he offers, We wou'd ask the Favour of him, to lend us His.

Q. *Be pleas'd to insert in your next* Apollo, *from whence the Word* (NEWS) *is Derived?*

A. Some will tell you, that NEWS coming from all Parts, and the Letter N. E. W. S. standing for North, East, West, and South, the Word was thence compounded of them, but to avoid Quibbles; it is derived from *New.*

Whereas divers curious Questions are sent us, relating to the Wonderful Twins lately brought from Hungary, on *Wednesday* next we shall begin to answer them.

POEMS.

The old Gentlewoman, who was so lately enamour'd with your Son, that She cou'd'nt refrain publishing her Affections; was so seiz'd by a mixture of Joy and Amazement, at your ingenuous, as well as ingenious Answer, that in Dying Raptures, She made the following confus'd Will, wherein She forgot to nominate who should be her Executors, for her Thoughts were so fix'd upon the Contemplation of your Son, that thrice invoking, and thrice sighing at his Name; She thus began:

Q. IMprimis, *I give him when I'm dead and cold,*
My Rings and my Jewels, my Plate and my Gold.
Item, *after I'm dead I give him that House,*
Which I hold by good Lease from Christopher Dowse
To have and to hold, unto him, for as long,
As the Lease by the Law shall be deem'd to be strong:
Were I likely to live, I would name the wish'd Day,
When Hymen, *should teach me to Love and Obey;*
But if Death proves Triumphant, I must him desire
To think in what Agonies, I did expire.
How that Love was the Cause, too much joy made me die,
And the warmth of his Lines, sent my Soul to the Skie;

When

When dead, let me have a true Epitaph made,
If it be but, Here lies a good natur'd old Jade.
And unless he does this, my Will is he shall
Lose Rings, Plate, and Jewels ; nay Gold, House and all.
For I Order Executors, that they shan't him pay,
Till the Will of the Dead be fulfills ev'ry way ;
Therefore (dying) I beg he'd consider the Case,
And if Love can't prevail, let Interest to take Place.
She said, and immediately died ; and I being Heir at Law to the Deceas'd, will take out Letters of Administation to the Will annexed, merely because, that if you will perform the Desire of the Deceas'd, You may the better enforce me to pay you your Legacies.
Now whether, or no, you think it worth while ?
Is the Question, that's ask'd, by your Friend Robert Gryle.

A. Mr. Gryle, (or to call you more properly) *Guile*,
Since Executors, often do merit that Style :
My sad *Offsprings* extreamly concern'd at the Change,
And surpriz'd at the News of a Rapture so strange ;
But to any thing doubts your Legitimate Claim,
As suspecting you've alter'd the Will of his Dame :
Since for him so great Signs of Affection She made,
Tis presum'd She migh give to him *All* that She had.
Howe'er since this Will does an *Epitaph* crave,
Pray let this small Inscription be fix'd to her Grave.

The Epitaph.

UNderneath this unmoveable Tombstone is (laid
The Refuse of a Generous Wealthy Old Maid ;
Who Refunding her Clog of Mortality's gone
To the Sphere of Bright *Phœbus*, to Marry his Son :
Resolving to finish her Suit in the Heavens,
Tho' her Bones here lye scatter'd at fixes and sevens ;
Therefore, Passenger, stay, and take this Observation,
Here's no Death in the Case, but a Glorious Tran- (slation.

Q. *O mighty* Apollo, *who make such pretences*
To Wit, and resolving of very odd Fancies ;
Who by People of very great Learning are said,
To have something more than Lice in your Head.
You'l highly Oblige us, if you can determine
The Cause of some Mortals breeding of Vermine ;
So that Picking and Cleaning (in't that a damn'd hard (thing !)
And Shifting of Shirts don't Avail 'em a Farthing !
Nay ! Some knowing Folks go further and Aver,
If they Shifted their Skins they'd be Lousy as ever.
If you find out the Cause and a Cure for to help us,
It will make you as great as the Devil at Delphos.

A Mr. Querist, *Apollo*, takes leave to declare,
That your Message doth uncouth and sordid appear ;
And 'tis Favour uncommon, that His Godship who (knows all,
Should stoop to resolve such a lowsy Proposal :
But it's clear from your moving vermicular Strains,
That your Body's affected no more than your Brains.
From Putredinous Humours this ill doth proceed,
Whereof this sort of Reptils engender and breed ;
And under your Skin Nature lodging such Stores,
These quotidian Tormentors entrude through the (Pores.
Thus for us 'tis enough of the Cause to assure you :
But observe, 'tis another Man's Business to Cure you.

Q. *Ye Question-mongers tell me why*
Rich Men of Small, Poor Men of Great Pox (finer dye?

A. Their too much Care's the Reason why
Rich Men of Small ; Poor, through Neglect, o'th' (Greater Dye.

Q. *Since* Apollo's *my Friend, so far as I know ;*
I hope at this time, he'l shew himself so,
By answ'ring the Question which here I have sent,
For which I will justly give him Content ;
The Question is this, why our Stage is so dull,
For each Actor appears (like me) a Numscul ?

A. All Europe can't shew such Performance of (Parts,
Nor *French*, nor *Italian*, can match their Deserts ;
For Action, or Motion, for Gesture, or Tread,
For Empasis Cadence, and all can be said :
If this will not serve to secure from Reflection ;
'Tis not from their Fault, your want of Perception.

The Contention.

THE God of Wine and God of Love,
(Supremest of the Pow'rs above,)
Contending for Imperial Sway,
And which shou'd win the Glorious Day ;
Designing one alone to Reign,
Resolv'd their Contest on a Swain.
The God of Love, his Golden Dart
Let fly, and hit the Shepherd's Heart ;
The Swain abandoning his Sheep,
His Scrip and Crook, his Food and Sleep,
Addresses him to *Cloris* Shrine,
For *Cloris* now was all Divine ;
Nought left of Humane in her Nature,
But all, a Bright Cælestial Creature.
The God of Wine then fill'd a Glass,
In hopes to drive away the Lass
Far from his Thoughts, yet all in vain,
He Quaff'd and Smil'd, but Sigh'd again.
The Swain was ask'd, the Swain confest
The Passion stronger in his Brest,
But that the Wine had chear'd his *Hope*,
And lay'd aside the *Knife* and *Rope*.
The God of Love then Sneez'd aloud,
And all the little Cupids bow'd.
He then let fly another Dart,
Which more enrag'd the Shepherd's Heart :

Then

Then *Bacchus* gave a flowing Cup;
The Shepherd ſmil'd and Quaff'd it up.
The Swain was ask'd, the Swain confeſt,
The Paſſion ſtronger in his Breſt;
But now being rais'd to *Cloris*'s Sphere,
He had diſcharg'd all Grief and Fear.
The God of Love twice Sneez'd aloud,
And twice the little Cupids bow'd.
The third and laſt Shaft now was ſent,
Which leſs effected than it meant;
For *Bacchus* with a flowing Bowl,
Enlarg'd the Shepherd's joyful Soul.
The Swain was ask'd, the Swain confeſt,
The Paſſion now had left his Breſt;
He found himſelf grow all Divine,
And *Cloris* at a diſtance ſhine;
Himſelf the bright Cœleſtial Creature,
And She return'd to Humane Nature.
The Bacchanals with loud Huzza's
Proclaim their God whoſe Bowl diſplays
Such Influence, and gain'd the Odds,
In placing Man amongſt the Gods.
The God of Love withdrew and ſwore,
He never wou'd encounter more:
The *Mighty Bowl*, but always yield,
Whenever that ſhou'd take the *Field*.

Foreign News, &c.

BErlin, June 6th. The King of Pruſſia finds ſo much Benefit by the Waters of Carelsbad, that it is hop'd he will ſoon recover; and in the mean time, he avoids as much as can be the receiving Complements on the Death of his Grandſon: The Prince-Royal and Princeſs continue at Woeſterhauſen, and have declin'd from receiving any Compliments from Foreign Miniſters. Our Advices from Livonia and Lithuania, ſay the Deſolation of thoſe Countries is unexpreſſible, the Swedes on one hand exhauſting them by Taxes and Contributions, and the Muſcovites on the other deſtroying them with Fire and Sword: Inſomuch that they are forc'd to fly to the Woods and Foreſts for Shelter. The King of Sweden is ſo much incens'd againſt the Muſcovites hereon, that he has ſent back a Letter unopen'd, which the Czar had writ to him (which is a ſign'd Affront amongſt Princes) and has alſo declar'd that he would not lay down his Arms till he had taken full Vengeance on the the Muſcovites, for their Barbarity towards the Poles and Livonians.

Milan, May 29th. The Duke of Savoy continues his Inſtances for the March of the Imperial Troops, and the Auxilliaries of Pruſſia and Sax-Gotha, the latter of which are order'd to march forthwith into Piemont, and the former will in a few days follow them. We hear from Turin, that the Snow on the Alps begins to melt, and as the melting permits, he Royal Highneſs will ſecure the Paſſes of the Mountains. Our Letters from Naples ſay, they continue their Preparations againſt Sicily, and will attack it, as ſoon as the Confederate Fleet comes to aid them, after they have convoyed the Queen of Spain and the Palatine Troops to Barcelona. We hear the Affairs of King Charles are in much better Circumſtances than could be believ'd, and that he will be in a Condition to Act Offenſively after the arrival of the Reinforcements which are ready to be ſhip'd off.

Cologn June 12. Notwithſtanding the Affairs are not adjuſted between his Imperial Majeſty and the Elector Palatine, yet the Troops of the Latter making 11000 Effective Men, have actually marched from their Camp and paſs'd the Rhine. Our Advices from Frankfort ſay, that the Elector of Hannover arriv'd this Morning, but has ſignify'd that he deſigns not to Joyn the Army, 'till Prince Eugene is arrived from Vienna. The Negotiations with the Circle of Franconia, for 3000 Men over and above their Contingent, is almoſt concluded. We promiſe ourſelves a very Proſperous Campaign on the ſide of Germany, the French not being near ſo ſtrong as they gave out. The Army under the Elector of Hannover will conſiſt of 35000 Men, beſides the ſeveral Detachments made for the Mozelle.

London, June 11th. The Duke of Gordon, Viſcount Kilmir, Fortheringham of Powriee, Lord James Murray, Lyon of Auchterhouſe, Steward of Stanachie, Robinſon of Strovan, Mackdonal of Keppock, Seaton of Touch, Edmunſton of Newton, Laird of Keppindarvie, Gorden of Gallachi, and Steward of Boice, were on Tueſday Morning brought Priſoners to Town, and on Wedneſday Night were examin'd by a Committee of her Majeſties moſt Honourable Privy Council.

On Monday Night the Lord Drummond, Sir George Maxwell and Robert Murray of Palmes, Eſq; were committed to the Tower, and the Lairds of Cardeen and Keir, to Newgate.

Whereas this Paper now, beſides the great Numbers taken in, at Publick-Houſes; is taken in at many more Private-Houſes than any other Paper, and by Conſequence likely to be of more Effect for Adverriſements than any others; alſo our taking Care that nothing ſhall be taken in but what is Creditable, otherwiſe we might have much fill'd the *Paper* before this time; we ſuppoſe it may be of Incouragement to *People* to Advertiſe in this *Paper*.

Any *Perſons*, upon directing their Letters to the *Printer*, ſuperſcrib'd, for the *Britiſh Apollo*; may have this *Paper* brought to their Houſes at two Shillings a Quarter, by the Men who carry them: Thoſe who come in within the Quarter, to have proportionable Deductions at the End: Alſo the Monthly-Papers for *April* and *May*: Likewiſe the Books of Guards neatly Bound to keep them in, at two Shillings a piece. It is deſired all Letters with Queſtions be directed thither, or to Mr. *Keble* in *Weſtminſter-Hall*, or to Mr. *Bickerton*, at the *Golden Flower-de-luce*, in St. *Paul's Church-Yard*, Bookſellers: Where whole Sets may be had from the Beginning; at which Places likewiſe, Advertiſements are taken in. But all who deſire Sets, and to have them conſtantly deliver'd at their Houſes, muſt direct their Letters as above. *Note*, that they who have whole Sets are only to pay a Shilling for the 12 before *Lady-Day*, and the reſt to go on this Quarter.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

AT the Requeſt of ſeveral Ladies of Quality, for the Benefit of Mr. CORY and Mr. FAIRBANK: At the THEATOR-ROYAL in DRURY-LANE. This preſent Friday will be preſented the Tragedy of *HAMLET*, PRINCE of DENMARK. The Part of Hamlet perform'd by Mr. *Wilks*, the King by Mr. *Keen*, Laertes by Mr. *Powel*, Horatio by Mr. *Mills*, Polinius by Mr. *Johnſon*, Oſtrick by Mr *Cibber*, Grave maker by Mr. *Eſtcourt*, the Queen by Mrs. *Knight*, Ophelia by Mrs. *Bradſhaw*, and all the other Parts to the beſt advantage, being the laſt time of performing it this Seaſon.

ENquiry is made for an Houſe in a good Air, and dry Place, of about Forty Foot in Front, Two Rooms on a Floor, One or Two Stories high, beſides Low Rooms and Garrets, with a little Ground to it; as a Garden or Graſs-Plat, to be Let by yearly Rent, Leaſe, or Sold, within a *Mile*, two or three of the City, North or Eaſt, ſo as to be gone to by the Uſual Stage Coaches. If any bring or ſend Notice of ſuch to Mr. Brown's Coffee-houſe in Fenchurch-ſtreet, near *Mark*-lane end, they may hear of one will deal with them for it, if lik'd of.

TAken from a Gentleman on the Road to Epſom, on the 8th Inſtant, a Gold Watch made by David Johnſon, and a Gold Snuff-Box, with A. R. in a Cypher on it, and a Barron's Coronet: Whoever brings them to Mr. Wilſon in New-ſtreet, by Chancery-Lane, ſhall have ten Guineas Reward, or in Proportion for either.

Printed for the Authors, by *J. Mayo*, at the *Printing-Preſs*, againſt *Water-Lane* in *Fleet-ſtreet*. Where Advertiſements are Taken in.